



To follow Jesus' footsteps, caring for each other when we work, play and pray.

Newsletter No.9

Friday 15th January 2021

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year to you all! We hope that you had a peaceful Christmas break and that your families are safe and well. As I am sure that you are aware there have been many challenges we have faced together already in 2021 and will continue to do this together. We will endeavour to continue to support your child's learning should they be in school or at home. Our aim is to make sure that the children and staff in school are kept as safe as possible and are therefore asking for only those children of Critical workers who cannot work from home to attend.

Mrs Chambers

Last week we had some fantastic news! Congratulations to Mrs Chambers and her family on the birth of their daughter 'Mia Grace'. We are pleased to tell you that both mother and baby are doing really well.

Home Learning

Thank you for all your kind responses to the current situation around home learning, your letters and emails you have sent have been gratefully received by our staff members who are working hard in difficult circumstances. Please continue to send in your child's work to the year group email addresses that are shown on your child's weekly Home learning pack that come out every Monday morning. As well as the remote learning that we are sending out, each year group will be sending out recorded books / chapters of books read by staff (Jackanory!!). We are doing this to continue to promote the children's love of and importance of reading. Please discuss and enjoy them with your family.

Snippet of a lovely email- replicated in many we have received:

..Firstly, I want to say a massive thank you to all the class teachers. Every morning the children sit down and watch their You Tube videos from their teachers. We actually do this on the tv screen so they can watch all together which is really lovely.

The timetables the teachers have given us are clear and the work that follows is informative and interesting. I have learnt more about maths and X in particular is actually teaching me! The combination of worksheets, videos and quizzes are so good. Having reading books online is also a really nice idea and means that we can read every day. The weekly phone calls are so lovely and I know how much they appreciate hearing from their teachers and TAs.

I know that there are some schools that are doing online live lessons. This has worked well in some secondary schools but I actually think it is far harder in primary. I am a teacher and I need a laptop as does my husband. We do not have (N) laptops the children could use and I am sure there are many families in the same position who could not afford this. Knowing we can do the home schooling at our own pace has meant so much to my husband and I. He works from home and we knew straight away we would not be sending the children in to school.

Whilst we are juggling our own work and the children's home schooling, we have felt reassured that we can do this when we have time. If online lessons were happening, we would have no way of monitoring what they are doing and someone like X would still need us on a 1-1 basis. Currently we do some work in the morning between our meetings and then we do more in the afternoon. Sometimes I do some when I get back from work and the children look forward to this.

You will never be able to please everyone but right now, we need to keep our families safe, happy and loved. This includes the staff at St Joseph's. Everyone is working so hard and we honestly do appreciate all you do. I know some voices are louder than others and I wanted to put mine across.

All we can do right now is get through this very difficult time and the hard work and dedication from staff should not go unnoticed. We may all be in the same storm but we are all in different boats. We just have to be kind and do the best we can.

Please can this be shared with staff.

Thank you again from two very tired but grateful parents.

Thank you!!

BBC Home Learning Support

Please continue to encourage your child to complete as much of the work set by school as possible, but if your child is waiting on an electronic device to access the internet during the day, we recommend the Primary school programmes broadcast by CBBC. As additional support to parents, CBBC is now broadcasting three hours of primary school programmes from 9am every weekday. They will include BBC Bitesize Daily, as well as other much-loved shows with an educational twist, such as Our School, Celebrity Supply Teacher, Horrible Histories and more.

DFE Extended internet data allowance/4G router for remote learning

Please be aware for families who are entitled to pupil premium funding and would benefit from extra internet data, there is help available via the Department for Education. This is available to those that have no broadband connection at home or cannot afford additional mobile data. Please contact Mrs Hill or Mr Lynch via the enquiry desk for further details.

Further support

We appreciate the difficult times we are all facing and want you to know that we are here to support you at St Joseph's. We also want to bring to your attention the Birmingham Children's Partnership who can support with a range of different issues. Please see poster below.



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MAC Food Bank

We appreciate the difficulties that families are facing so would like to make you aware of our MAC food and toiletry bank in place for any families in need and they are welcome to contact the confidential email address: family@stjosutton.net if they require any help or support.

Parking Issues

We have had reports of inconsiderate parking from some parents during pick up and drop off times. Please ensure your vehicle is not blocking a drive or in a 'no loading' area. We have been informed that Traffic Enforcement officers will be patrolling the area.

Crossing Warden Advert

Please see the advert attached at the end of this newsletter.

Cultural Capital for December

Musician of the Month – Aretha Franklin

Artist of the Month – Henri Matisse

Word of the Month – Accumulation

Inspirational Person of the Month - St Joan of Arc



This Sunday is the 2nd Sunday in Ordinary time

**We thank you, Lord God, for the wonders you work-- for food and friendship in your house.
Above all, we thank you for the gift of your Son, who is one with us both now and forever
Amen**

Yours sincerely,

G M O'Hara
Executive Principal

Mrs N Hill
Acting Head of School



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St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Little Sutton Lane, Sutton Coldfield B75 6PB

E: enquiry@stjosutton.net

T: 0121 354 6270

W: www.stjosutton.net

Principal: Mr G. O'Hara

Father
Hudson's
Care

Father Hudson's Care

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Mr Gerry O'Hara
Principal
St Joseph's Catholic Primary School
Little Sutton Lane
SUTTON COLDFIELD
B75 6PB

5 January 2021
6080

Dear Mr O'Hara

We are grateful for your kind donation of £109.39 and all the time, effort and enthusiasm you put into fundraising for Father Hudson's Care, especially in this difficult time. I am pleased to enclose a certificate for you to display on your noticeboard. Please pass on our thanks to all students, staff and parents for their generous support.

The money raised by schools during the Good Shepherd and Walk a Mile in their Shoes appeals has helped us support more than 3,500 people in the last year. Your donations are working to improve lives in communities across the Archdiocese.

Fundraising is just one aspect of our work with schools. We enjoy sharing our work with pupils in schools across the area helping children and young people learn about the impact that one person can have on the lives of others and about the work being undertaken in their communities in their name.

We support elderly people and people with dementia, disabled adults and refugees new to this area, parents who struggle to look after their families and children in need of foster carers. On their behalf, thank you to all the students, parents and staff at St Joseph's Catholic Primary School for their steadfast support.

With every good wish
Yours sincerely

Andy Quinn
Chief Executive
Enc Certificate

Reaching out to provide social care in the Catholic Archdiocese of Birmingham

Registered in England and Wales no. 1653388. Registered charity no. 512992.
Father Hudson's Care is a working name of Father Hudson's Society.



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From Birmingham with Love

Birmingham Children's Partnership



We've all been through a tough time with Covid-19 and repeated lockdowns. For many families it can get harder over Winter, which is why we're here to help. Here are some of our partners' most used services and support, which might make life a little bit easier...



1. **Online parenting course.** We've pre-paid for every parent in Birmingham to access a [parenting course](#). Just enter the access code "COMMUNITY" at the top of the page to claim. There are courses for parents, carers and grandparents of children from bump to 19. Learn about how your child develops, and get tips to manage their behaviour.



2. **Mental health support.** In these difficult times we have to look after our mental health. For young people aged 11-25 there are forums, guides and counselling available at [Kooth](#). If your child 0-25 needs support, get in touch with Pause by calling 0207 841 4470 or [email](#). Adults can get support from [MIND](#) by calling 0121 262 3555. Or for urgent help call [Forward Thinking Birmingham](#) on 0300 300 0099.



3. **Financial help.** If you've lost your job, or are struggling for food or rent there are services that can help. [Local welfare provision](#) can make a big difference if you are in a crisis and need food, fuel or basic white goods. [Discretionary Housing Payments](#) may be able to help with rent. And there are [food banks](#) across Birmingham that are here to help.



4. **Domestic abuse.** For women and children affected by domestic abuse please see [guidance](#) or confidentially contact [Birmingham and Solihull Women's Aid](#). For Men, please contact [Respect](#).



5. **Problems with drugs or alcohol.** A new, discrete app called Staying Free is available on Android or Apple. Use the code "birmingham11" for pre-paid access. To speak to someone call [Change Grow Live](#).



6. **Bereavement support.** It's a terrible time to lose a loved one — you can get help by calling 0121 687 8010 or from [Cruse](#).



7. **Early help for families.** If anyone in your family needs more help, from public services or community groups, then please contact our [voluntary sector local leads](#). We have ten areas which can connect you to support across the city.

If you are worried about a child, please call Birmingham's Children's Advice and Support Service on 0121 303 1888. In an emergency, including child abuse, contact the Police on 999. You can also [chat](#) to the Police.



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School Crossing Patrol Warden needed

Pro Rata £18,562 - £20,493 (*Part time £9.75 per hour*)

8hrs per week – St Josephs RC School Tamworth Road

You will assist at places where children/adults cross roads on their way to and from school (or on their way from one part of a school to another) during the prescribed hours, ensuring their safe passage, and will also be responsible for reporting any problems encountered to supervisors.

- You will need to be caring, reliable and must have good verbal communication skills to enable you to communicate effectively with a range of people in differing situations.
- You will need to be available term time mornings and afternoons during the school run.
- All leave must be taken in school holidays.
- Successful applicants will be provided with a uniform and training.
- A Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check will be undertaken.

Application Forms can be completed online: <https://www.wmjobs.co.uk/job/68417/school-crossings-patrol-warden/>

Vacancies can be found on 'View all Birmingham City Council Vacancies on WM Jobs Website'.

Any Questions Call School Crossings on 0121 303 7777

or email: schoolcrossings@birmingham.gov.uk